

### REMARKS

The rejection of claims 12 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is obviated by appropriate amendment. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims are definite within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not described in the specification in such a way to enable the invention.

Claim 19 has been amended to recite a method of producing kappa-carrageenans.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art is able to practice the claimed invention without an undue amount of experimentation. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is urged.

Claims 12-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over "Potin et al. (U)". Applicant believes that Barbeyron et al (U) was intended as a basis for this rejection.

The Barbeyron et al. (U) reference nowhere teaches or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) should be favorably reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 12-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over "Potin et al. (U)". Applicant believes that Barbeyron et al (U) was intended as a basis for this rejection.

The Barbeyron et al. (U) reference nowhere teaches or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be favorably reconsidered and withdrawn.

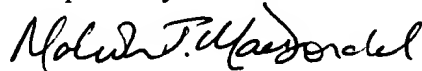
Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any final points remain

that can be clarified by telephone, Dr. Patterson is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney at the number indicated below.

**Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for reply to the notice dated November 24, 2003, for three (3) months from February 24, 2004 to May 24, 2004. A duly completed credit card authorization form is attached to effect payment of the extension fee.**

May 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted



Malcolm J. MacDonald, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 40,250

Tel: (703) 837-9600 Ex. 24